

there are small businesses that are still struggling under the burdensome State and local mandates.

The deadline to apply for Paycheck Protection Program support has, unfortunately, passed, and yet too many businesses remain closed or restricted. Some small business leaders are wondering how long they can survive. And, frankly, if we do not act, we risk losing them permanently.

Most of our small businesses have been built by hardworking families over generations. Will Congress let this be their end? Will we allow families on Main Street to be used as bargaining chips in Washington?

Mr. Speaker, we cannot permit small businesses to be wiped out by a virus. This is a time for choosing, and we in Congress must put politics aside and extend a lifeline to the American small businesses.

Congressman STEVE CHABOT, the top Republican on the House Small Business Committee, has introduced commonsense legislation that would reopen the Paycheck Protection Program, free up over \$137 billion of unspent funds, and extend this program until the end of this year. This plan makes sense, and I encourage every Member of Congress to support it.

If 2020 has taught us anything, it is to plan for the unexpected. While many circumstances beyond our control remain uncertain, Congress has an opportunity now to offer small businesses security, and, most important, we have the chance to offer hope to these hardworking Americans.

As my friend Congressman CHABOT said earlier this week, our economy is depending upon America's small businesses, and American small businesses are depending on us.

This Small Business Week, there are livelihoods that are on the line. American families are counting on us. American workers are counting on us. It is time that we deliver for them.

REPUBLICANS ARE FAILING THE PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am going to make some comments, but I want to just briefly remark about the gentleman from Pennsylvania's remarks about the PPP.

That program was, of course, a bipartisan program that was negotiated between Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, and NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, the chair of the Small Business Committee here, who played a role.

We passed the HEROES Act. We are 4 months-plus from passing the HEROES Act, and the Senate has taken no action.

Now, one could say, well, the Senate hasn't taken action because they can't get the votes of the Democrats for a bill that we believe is woefully inadequate. I didn't hear the gentleman

talking about those people in food lines or the families who need that payment of \$1,200 and dollars for children. I didn't hear him say anything about the testing capability so we can stop this virus.

I do not criticize him for mentioning the Chabot bill. I will tell my friends on the Republican side, I am hopeful that they are going to get the opportunity to vote either for an agreement between Secretary Mnuchin and Speaker PELOSI and Senator SCHUMER and others who choose to participate in the negotiations.

I am very hopeful that we will have either an agreement or a bill that we can pass that I hope everybody on this floor votes for, which will deal with the problems I mentioned, with the challenges the gentleman from Pennsylvania mentioned. But, of course, the response to HEROES was, from the Republican leader in the Senate: Let the States go bankrupt.

I don't know whether anybody has any thoughts on, if the States go bankrupt, the impact that that will have on the fight against COVID-19. I think it would be substantial, including cities and localities and counties.

So we have some time to go before we are leaving here, and we have time to address not only the challenge that Mr. JOYCE brings up, but the challenges of families and children, of people who are sick.

All of us ought to be motivated by the fact that 200,000 of our fellow citizens have died as a result of COVID-19. I am going to speak to that now.

Mr. Speaker, this week, Democrats are coming to the floor to highlight the work we have been doing over the past 2 years governing for the people, in sharp contrast with the way President Trump and Republicans have failed the people.

First and foremost, they have failed our country by responding inadequately to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Now, we started out with bipartisan action, and that was good, overwhelming bipartisan action, Republicans and Democrats responding to a crisis that was killing our people; and then, unfortunately, that bipartisan process fell apart.

First and foremost, our Republican colleagues have failed our country by responding inadequately to the COVID-19 pandemic by not having the Senate respond to our bill and come to a conference and try to get an agreement. In addition, when we tried to have negotiations, as we had successfully had four times, they refused to come to the table.

In February, President Trump told the American people that the virus, like a miracle, would disappear. He called criticism of his response to the virus a hoax. More than 200,000 Americans have now died from that hoax.

There has been no miracle. Criticism of that failure is no hoax. Other nations' governments have figured out how to slow the spread of the virus, yet

this administration keeps failing and keeps contradicting our health providers and our experts.

Based on our population, Mr. Speaker, if we had the same fatality rate for COVID-19 as Australia—listen, my friends, to this figure. If we had the same fatality rate for COVID-19 as Australia, fewer than 11,000 Americans would have died, if we had had the same success rate. And if we had had the same rate as Japan, fewer than 5,000 Americans would have lost their lives.

Yet our President says we have handled it the best of anybody in the world. The facts, of course, do not interfere with his conclusions.

The Democratic-led House passed the HEROES Act in May—May 15, to be exact—more than 4 months ago. More than 110,000 Americans have died of COVID-19 during the 4 months that President Trump and the Republicans blocked the HEROES Act from helping us defeat this pandemic.

In that same period, President Trump, who in 2011 criticized President Obama for playing golf, in that same period, President Trump left the White House to play golf as many as 30 times—fiddling while Rome burned. That is eight times per month on average.

What did President Trump say when asked in August about the rising fatalities? "It is what it is."

How recklessly irresponsible, how callous and dismissive of people's pain, and how indicative of a lack of decency and leadership.

At the same time, President Trump and congressional Republicans have been working hard to eliminate access to affordable healthcare for millions of Americans and remove protections for more than 133 million people with preexisting conditions. And they say, of course: Oh, no. We are for preexisting conditions. We are just trying to get rid of the law that gives protection for preexisting conditions.

Their lawsuit to overturn the Affordable Care Act comes amid a deadly pandemic worsened by their own failures.

For 4 years, President Trump and Republicans have been promising to unveil a secret plan that they say covers everybody. The President says: I am going to cover everybody—lower cost, higher quality.

We have seen no such plan in 3 years and 8 months of this Presidency. That is because there is no Republican healthcare plan. They tried one early on. It failed. It failed because they couldn't get a Republican vote—John McCain, who thought it wasn't a real bill.

As a matter of fact, the President, who hailed the bill at the White House as the most wonderful thing in the world, 2 weeks later, said: It was a mean bill.

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There is only the unyielding drive to get rid of the Affordable Care Act and

tell tens of millions of Americans: You are on your own. Sixty-five-some-odd votes to repeal the Affordable Care Act, no alternative have the Republicans, even when they were in charge, adopted.

As a result of President Trump and Republicans hitting pause, the minority leader of this House said: Let's wait and see what happens. We have seen what happens, 110,000 additional people have died.

As a result of President Trump and Republicans hitting pause on responding to the pandemic, tens of millions are out of work, critical support in the form of expanded unemployment insurance was allowed to expire in July, and the unemployment rate has jumped from 4.7 to 8.4 percent.

The Federal deficit has also skyrocketed as a result of these failures. During President Obama's last full year in office it was \$585 billion. Too high? Yes. But what is it now? \$3.3 trillion. It was the pandemic. Yes, certainly that is the case.

It was the \$1.5 trillion tax cut for the wealthiest in America. It was the pandemic.

But it was the failure to respond in an effective way to what the President, in January, knew was a critically important health risk, and told the American people: Don't worry, it is going to go away in just a few days.

Our health and our economy are not the only things that are under threat from President Trump and his allies in Congress, our democracy is under threat as well. Even before he was sworn into office, the President had shattered the democratic norms that have made America strong and stable.

As a candidate, he solicited campaign help from Russia. Send me those emails, Russia. Send it, in public, brazenly. Help me Russia.

And while in office, of course, he was impeached for soliciting help from Ukraine to help his reelection.

Numerous Trump administration appointees and campaign officials have been convicted of crimes relating to Russia's interference in the 2016 election and lying to law enforcement. I guess we rationalize that if you are an ally of Trump, lying to law enforcement is no problem. Paul Manafort. Michael Flynn.

The President has refused to divest himself of his businesses and created massive conflicts of interest. Since 2015, more than \$16 million of taxpayer funds have been spent at President Trump's own properties.

This is a President for whom the law appears to mean little, for whom democratic norms appear to be nothing, and for whom personal power and enrichment appear always to come first.

Not America first, as he likes to say. Not for the people.

Trump first. Himself above others and above the law.

And Republicans in Congress, unfortunately, and sadly, have been unwilling to stand up and say the emperor has no clothes.

Mr. Speaker, we have been working every day. We passed hundreds of bills. Minimum wage. You are on your own. Violence against women. You are on your own. Equality for all Americans. You are on your own. Voting rights for Americans. You are on your own. Sitting unattended, unconsidered on MITCH MCCONNELL's desk.

Mr. Speaker, America is struggling, and what we ought to be doing is working together. And I am hopeful, as I said, in the next 5 to 6 days we get either an agreement or a bill passed in this House that the Senate will pass. I am for either one of those options, but we must take one of them.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF ROSE BAYUK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish happy birthday to Rose Bayuk, who turns 105 on November 2. Rose served as a nurse during World War II and dedicated much of her life to caring for others.

She grew up in Buhl, Minnesota. In 1938, Rose graduated from Khaler School of Nursing in Rochester, Minnesota. Her diploma was signed and presented to her by the famous Mayo brothers themselves.

Upon graduating, she moved to California to begin her career. Shortly after moving, Pearl Harbor was attacked, and Rose decided to serve her country by enlisting in the Army Nurse Corps.

During the war, Rose made several crossings across the Atlantic on an English ocean liner, bringing home wounded from Italy, France, and North Africa.

After her service, Rose continued a life of service by becoming a school nurse, and eventually the head of a nursing home.

Rose now lives in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, where she stays active by going to the gym and playing bridge.

Rose, thank you for your incredible service to our country, and I wish you the happiest of birthdays.

CELEBRATING LIFESTONE HEALTH CARE

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, during National Small Business Week, I rise to honor Dr. Chiamaka Enemuoh, the owner of Lifestone Health Care, a business located in Proctor, Minnesota, that is dedicated to providing compassionate and reliable medical care for clients in a home-like setting.

Lifestone opened in 2014 as a 2,000-foot house with five employees. Thanks to the strong leadership of its owner, Dr. Enemuoh, Lifestone staff and capacity doubled by 2016, allowing them to serve more in the community. In addition to her work at Lifestone, Dr. Enemuoh enjoys serving as a mentor to young African-American women in the community and volunteers much of her time at organizations like the Duluth

Area Chamber of Commerce and African Women's Group.

Due to the valuable services this business provides to the Northland and the dedication of Dr. Enemuoh, the Small Business Association recently named Lifestone Health Care as the 2020 Minnesota Minority-Owned Small Business of the Year.

Thank you to Dr. Enemuoh and the entire staff at Lifestone Health Care for providing excellent healthcare to the residents of Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District. Your commitment to our community serves as an inspiration to all.

Mr. Speaker, entrepreneurs like Dr. Enemuoh are absolutely invaluable to our society. And as we continue to celebrate Small Business Week, we must also reinforce our commitment to empowering entrepreneurs like Dr. Enemuoh who create jobs, provide valuable services, and help drive our economy.

A MESSAGE ON THE PASSING OF RUTH BADER GINSBURG

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a message on the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg that I shared with my beloved synagogue, Congregation T'chayah, on Zoom during Saturday's Rosh Hashanah service just before we said the Mourner's Kaddish.

We have to resist what may be our first impulse over the loss of Justice Ginsburg, the horror of it. When people die, it is hard to step back from their circumstances, the circumstances of their death, in order to imbibe the lesson of their life, isn't it? Especially in circumstances like this.

Instead, let us consider this woman. A tiny person. A modest person. A young wife who helped her husband with his schoolwork, only turning to her own in the middle of the night. A woman who, nevertheless, finished at the top of her law school class. A brilliant lawyer no law firm would hire because she had ovaries, and heaven forbid, was a mother.

A person then pushed into teaching and given the space for advocacy. The system, by discriminating against her, set up a mighty campaign to fell discrimination.

The very architect of the assault against legal discrimination against women who, following in the footsteps of Thurgood Marshall, the lawyer, not the Justice, carefully disassembled the wall excluding women from all manner of rights, brick by carefully chosen brick.

The appeals court judge who was not President Clinton's first choice to join the Supreme Court, but who blew him away with her charismatic anti-charisma, her directness, lack of artifice, and legal brilliance so plain that it shone Sun-like.